

Message

From: Chuck Durham [Chuck.Durham@pgenv.com]
Sent: 3/5/2020 7:20:44 AM
To: Whitson, Amelia [Whitson.Amelia@epa.gov]; Goodwin, Cathleen@Waterboards [Cathleen.Goodwin@waterboards.ca.gov]
CC: Fondahl, Lauren [Fondahl.Lauren@epa.gov]; Polek, Jim [Polek.Jim@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Eureka pollutant levels

Hi Amelia,

Thanks for forwarding this information on the increased biosolids levels. We will definitely ask about it as part of the PCI.

-Chuck

Chuck Durham
PG Environmental
615-888-2928 (Office)

From: Whitson, Amelia <Whitson.Amelia@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 6:20 PM
To: Chuck Durham <Chuck.Durham@pgenv.com>; Goodwin, Cathleen@Waterboards <Cathleen.Goodwin@waterboards.ca.gov>
Cc: Fondahl, Lauren <Fondahl.Lauren@epa.gov>; Jim Polek <Polek.Jim@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Eureka pollutant levels

Hi Cathy and Chuck,

I wanted to pass along the below email from our Biosolids Coordinator, Lauren Fondahl, who noticed increasingly high levels of certain metals in Eureka's biosolids. She had initially thought it might be due to legacy contamination, but the fact that the concentrations have been increasing over the past couple years seems to belie that. Jim and I didn't see any likely possible sources identified in Eureka's annual pretreatment report, and so since Eureka is scheduled to have a PCI this year, we were wondering if you might be able to ask Eureka about it as part of the PCI? We'd be very interested to hear Eureka's thoughts on where the pollutants might be coming from (or if they're not sure at all).

Many thanks,

Amelia Whitson
Pretreatment Coordinator
NPDES Permits Office (WTR-2-3)
US EPA, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 972-3216

From: Fondahl, Lauren <Fondahl.Lauren@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 3:22 PM
To: Whitson, Amelia <Whitson.Amelia@epa.gov>
Subject: Eureka pollutant levels

Hi Amelia,

Eureka reported high levels of several pollutants in their biosolids for all 4 quarters of 2019. They reported Cu of up to 1900 ppm, over the Table 3 limit of 1500 ppm. They also reported uncommonly high results for As, up to 35 ppm; Cd, up to 12 ppm; Pb up to 175 ppm; Mo, up to 26 ppm, and Zn, up to 2500 ppm. I checked some previous years' levels, and their results for these pollutants had been a little higher than normal for that size treatment plant, but not as high as 2019. Levels in 2018 appeared to go up over the course of the year.

Lauren

Lauren Fondahl
Biosolids Coordinator, WTR-2-3
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75 Hawthorne St.
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